

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Attached hereto is one (1) sheet of corrected drawings that comply with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.84. The corrected drawings incorporate the following drawing changes:

In Fig. 3, extraneous reference numeral 21 and its lead line have been removed.

It is respectfully requested that the corrected drawings be approved and made a part of the record of the above-identified application.

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for the thorough consideration given the present application. Claims 1, 8, 17 and 18 remain under consideration in the present application. Claims 5-7 and 11-16 have been withdrawn from consideration.

Rejection under 35 USC 102

Claims 1-4 and 8-10 stand rejected under 35 USC 102 as being anticipated by YANG, U.S. Patent 5,765,409. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 1, 3, 8 and 10 stand rejected under 35 USC 102 as being anticipated by YU, U.S. Patent 6,227,016. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

In each case, the Examiner has only discussed the references by referring to reference numerals which denote the working piece. The YU reference shows a combination lock with a cable. The YANG reference shows a combination padlock. Neither of these references is directed towards a lock for a tool such as a knife.

In order to emphasize this difference, Applicants have amended the specification, claims and abstract to change the reference to the “working piece” to refer to the “cutting member.” Applicants submit that this translation of the original term is more accurate. Since neither of these references show cutting members, Applicants submit that both of these rejections are overcome.

Furthermore, Applicants have amended claim 1 to include limitations of claims 2-4 and amended claim 8 to include limitations of claims 9 and 10. Since the rejection over the YU reference did not include all of these claims. Applicants submit that this rejection is clearly

overcome. In regards to the YANG reference, it is noted that the Examiner has not made any comment regarding the limitations of the dependent claims, which have now been incorporated into the independent claims. Applicants submit that these limitations also are not seen in YANG, such as the feature of the edge received in the receptacle. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claims 1 and 8 are allowable over both of these rejections.

New claims 17 and 18 depend from these allowable independent claims and therefore are also allowable. Further, these claims recite the inclined plane and ramp. Accordingly, these claims are further allowable.

Conclusion

In view of the above remarks, it is believed that the claims clearly distinguish from the patents relied upon by the Examiner. In view of this, reconsideration of the rejections are allowance of all of the claims are respectfully requested.

In the event that any outstanding matters remain in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (703) 205-8000 in the Washington, D.C. area.

Application No.: 10/761,357

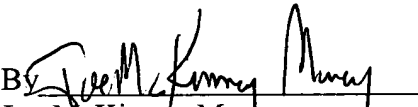
Docket No.: 3313-1098P

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,

 KM/RFG/acs:njp

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